April 17, 1959

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE **SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS**

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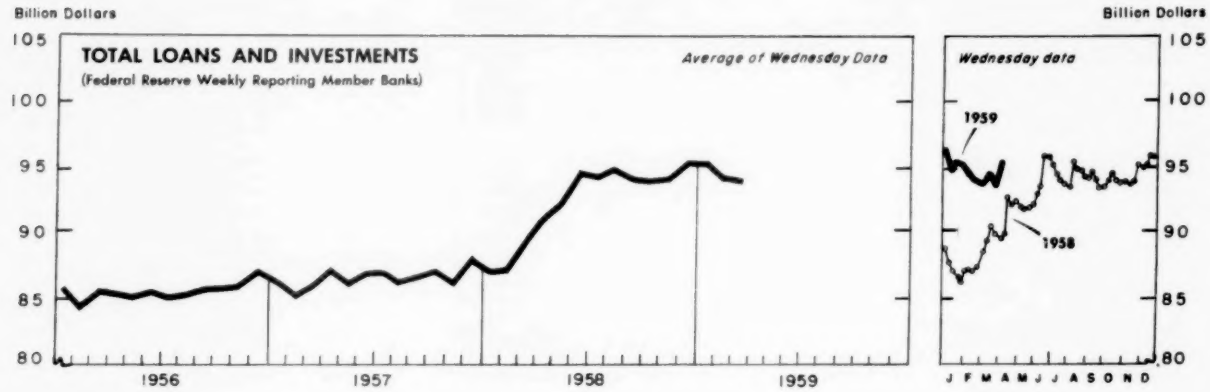
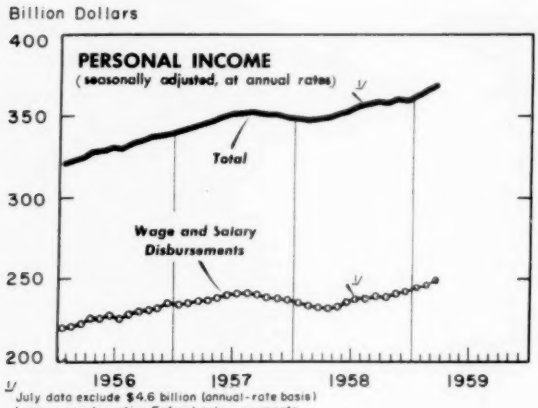
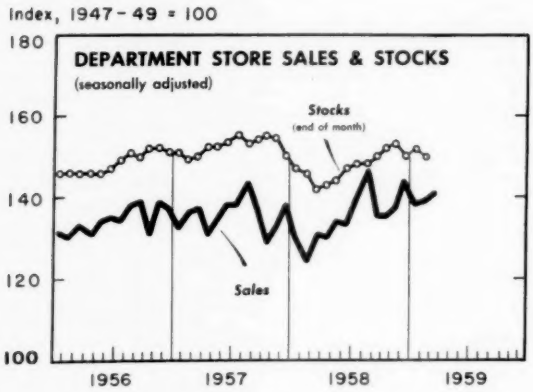
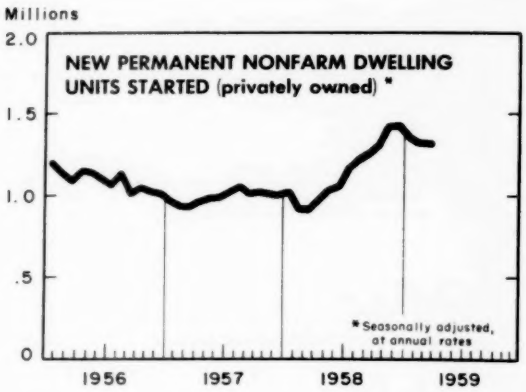
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS





1/ July data exclude $4.6 billion (annual-rate basis) lump-sum retroactive Federal salary payments.





WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1958		1959			
	April 5	April 12	Mar. 21	Mar. 28	April 4	April 11
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*119.7	119.4	119.3	119.5	119.5
Farm products.....do....	.....	*100.5	90.8	90.3	90.9	90.9
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*110.7	107.2	107.0	107.3	107.1
All other.....do....	.....	*125.7	127.8	127.8	127.9	127.9
22 commodities 2/.....do....	84.5	84.4	86.2	86.8	87.0	87.1
Department store sales.....do....	134	110	137	141	117	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	3,546	3,592	**2,553	**2,465	.....	.....
State and UCFE programs.....do....	3,314	3,363	2,078	2,003	.....	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	352	342	292	297	284	337
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	30,637	30,744	31,287	31,231	31,225	31,280
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	24,586	24,638	27,048	27,123	27,151	27,357
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	18,526	18,300	18,439	18,558	18,323	18,711
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do....	696	627	364	474	473	508
Reporting member banks (of F.R.System) in leading cities: 4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	54,119	55,251	57,019	56,628	55,889	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	26,699	26,889	28,367	28,419	28,423	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	89,541	89,834	94,728	93,631	95,522	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	28,113	28,055	30,296	29,365	30,543	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do....	30,763	30,589	31,215	31,170	31,172	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	8,695	8,712	9,788	9,813	9,834	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	4.04	4.03	4.41	4.41	4.42	4.43
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/....1941-43=10..	41.60	41.65	56.39	55.88	55.69	56.21
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	44.35	44.37	60.03	59.48	59.28	59.85
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,185	1,177	1,323	1,320	1,266	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	11,326	11,307	12,900	12,709	12,618	.....
Motor vehicles (cars, trucks, coaches).....number..	81,647	101,556	161,257	147,470	159,878	159,807
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,267	6,187	7,203	7,193	7,129	.....
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	1,312	1,308	2,631	2,631	2,638	2,641
Percent of capacity.....	#48.6	#48.5	92.9	92.9	93.2	93.3
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	516	521	603	604	590	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	277	276	329	334	334	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning April 13, 1959: Production, 2,648 thous. short tons; operating rate, 93.5 percent. * Monthly index for March 1958. ** Includes persons reported under temporary programs (TUC) and under Ex-Servicemen's Unemployment Compensation Act of 1958 (UCX). # Based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons); not comparable with 1959 rates which are based on January 1, 1959, annual capacity (147,633,670 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1958			1959		
	February	March	December	January	February	March
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Personal income, by source, seasonally adj. at annual rates:						
Total personal income.....bil. of dol..	347.5	348.7	359.9	363.0	r365.4	368.6
Wage and salary disbursements, total.....do....	233.2	232.6	243.3	245.4	r246.9	249.6
Commodity-producing industries.....do....	95.6	95.3	101.0	102.1	r102.7	104.6
Manufacturing only.....do....	75.4	74.9	79.9	80.8	r81.5	82.8
Distributive industries.....do....	63.4	62.9	64.2	64.8	r65.3	65.8
Service industries.....do....	33.2	33.3	34.3	34.5	34.7	34.9
Government.....do....	41.0	41.1	43.9	44.0	44.2	44.3
Other labor income.....do....	9.0	8.9	9.3	9.4	9.5	9.5
Proprietors' income:						
Business and professional.....do....	30.4	30.5	32.0	32.3	32.4	32.6
Farm.....do....	13.8	14.6	13.5	13.3	r13.4	13.5
Rental income of persons.....do....	12.1	12.1	12.4	12.4	12.5	12.5
Dividends.....do....	12.4	12.4	10.6	12.5	12.5	12.6
Personal interest income.....do....	19.3	19.3	19.6	19.6	19.8	20.0
Transfer payments.....do....	23.8	24.8	26.0	25.8	r26.1	26.1
Less personal contributions for social insurance...do....	6.7	6.6	6.8	7.7	r7.7	7.8
Total nonagricultural income.....do....	330.1	330.5	342.4	345.8	r348.2	351.2
Farm income and marketings:						
Cash receipts from farming, including Government payments, total.....mil. of dol..	2,175	2,133	3,087	2,909	2,276	.....
Farm marketings and CCC loans, total.....do....	2,144	2,108	3,034	2,862	2,242	.....
Crops.....do....	799	630	1,516	1,344	878	.....
Livestock and products, total.....do....	1,345	1,478	1,518	1,518	1,364	.....
Dairy products.....do....	355	406	363	366	347	.....
Meat animals.....do....	738	762	881	888	768	.....
Poultry and eggs.....do....	223	276	260	238	223	.....
Indexes of cash receipts from marketings and CCC loans, unadjusted:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	88	87	125	118	92	.....
Crops.....do....	74	59	141	125	82	.....
Livestock and products.....do....	99	108	111	111	100	.....
Indexes of volume of farm marketings, unadjusted:						
All commodities.....do....	97	89	139	127	104	.....
Crops.....do....	86	55	155	135	94	.....
Livestock and products.....do....	105	114	126	120	112	.....

r/ Revised.
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ITEM	1958			1959		
	February	March	December	January	February	March
COMMODITY PRICES						
Retail price:						
All commodities (U.S.Dept. of Commerce Index)..1935-39=100..	218.0	220.0	220.0	r220.0	219.6	.....
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
New permanent nonfarm dwelling units started:						
Unadjusted: Total, privately and publicly owned.....thous..	66.1	81.4	r91.2	86.0	89.0	120.0
Privately owned, total.....do....	61.0	77.3	89.5	83.3	87.9	117.0
In metropolitan areas.....do....	42.1	51.8	r62.8	58.8	60.6	80.1
Publicly owned.....do....	5.1	4.1	r1.7	2.7	1.1	3.0
Seasonally adjusted at annual rate:						
Privately owned, total.....do....	915.0	918.0	r1,432.0	1,350.0	1,320.0	1,319.0
DOMESTIC TRADE						
All retail stores: 1/						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	13,783	15,549	21,174	16,223	r14,946	16,957
Durable-goods stores.....do....	4,290	4,860	6,390	5,121	r4,928	5,705
Automotive group.....do....	2,471	2,789	3,214	3,016	r2,899	3,334
Furniture and appliance group.....do....	719	772	1,176	784	r747	806
Lumber, building, hardware group.....do....	591	700	919	697	684	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	9,493	10,688	14,784	11,102	r10,019	11,252
Apparel group.....do....	698	958	1,854	868	r750	1,112
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	507	534	738	581	r534	572
Eating and drinking places.....do....	1,027	1,124	1,243	1,158	r1,070	1,133
Food group.....do....	3,778	4,103	4,475	4,382	r3,869	4,075
Gasoline service stations.....do....	1,122	1,214	1,369	1,282	r1,197	1,305
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,201	1,553	3,358	1,442	r1,344	1,726
Estimated sales (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	16,089	16,066	17,605	17,454	r17,552	17,692
Durable-goods stores.....do....	5,055	5,020	5,827	5,836	r5,868	5,930
Automotive group.....do....	2,741	2,665	3,256	3,257	3,248	.....
Furniture and appliance group.....do....	852	868	868	880	890	.....
Lumber, building, hardware group.....do....	830	822	919	905	979	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	11,033	11,046	11,778	11,618	r11,684	11,762
Apparel group.....do....	1,004	988	1,101	1,032	1,082	.....
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	540	540	580	579	568	.....
Eating and drinking places.....do....	1,186	1,199	1,243	1,263	1,242	.....
Food group.....do....	4,167	4,162	4,242	4,244	4,274	.....
Gasoline service stations.....do....	1,282	1,267	1,356	1,367	1,368	.....
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,640	1,729	1,887	1,824	1,835	.....
Estimated inventories:						
Unadjusted, total.....do....	23,980	24,690	23,210	r23,400	24,060	.....
Durable-goods stores.....do....	11,220	11,480	10,640	r10,920	11,230	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	12,760	13,220	12,570	r12,480	12,830	.....
Adjusted, total.....do....	24,290	24,100	23,980	r24,180	24,210	.....
Durable-goods stores.....do....	11,220	11,030	10,810	11,010	10,990	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	13,070	13,070	13,170	r13,170	13,220	.....
Retail firms with 4 or more stores:						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....do....	3,353	3,920	6,023	3,968	3,593	.....
Retail firms with 11 or more stores:						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....do....	2,864	3,356	5,178	c3,418	3,098	.....
Apparel group.....do....	136	220	434	179	160	.....
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	78	86	149	93	87	.....
Eating and drinking places.....do....	62	69	75	69	67	.....
Furniture, homefurnishings stores.....do....	34	38	r47	r33	35	.....
General-merchandise group.....do....	716	942	2,093	868	811	.....
Grocery stores.....do....	1,401	1,516	1,659	1,676	1,470	.....
Lumber, building-materials dealers.....do....	42	48	55	48	48	.....
Tire, battery, accessory stores.....do....	50	56	101	62	59	.....
Estimated sales (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	3,436	3,492	3,789	r3,724	3,752	.....
Apparel group.....do....	211	214	258	r240	250	.....
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	88	89	100	98	97	.....
Eating and drinking places.....do....	72	71	72	75	77	.....
Furniture, homefurnishings stores.....do....	39	37	r39	r40	42	.....
General-merchandise group.....do....	992	1,061	1,135	1,122	1,125	.....
Grocery stores.....do....	1,521	1,504	1,597	1,575	1,599	.....
Lumber, building-materials dealers.....do....	57	57	65	62	64	.....
Tire, battery, accessory stores.....do....	67	66	72	80	79	.....
Wholesale trade:						
Sales, estimated (unadjusted), total.....bil. of dol..	9.5	10.2	12.0	11.1	10.6	.....
Durable-goods establishments.....do....	3.2	3.5	4.2	3.8	3.8	.....
Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....	6.3	6.8	7.8	7.3	6.8	.....
Inventories, estimated (unadjusted), total.....do....	12.4	12.2	11.6	11.8	11.9	.....
Durable-goods establishments.....do....	6.4	6.4	6.0	6.2	6.4	.....
Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.6	.....
EMPLOYMENT						
Labor turnover in manufacturing establishments:						
Accession rates, total.....monthly rate per 100 employees..	2.2	2.4	2.4	r3.3	p3.3	.....
New hires.....do....	.9	.9	1.1	1.5	p1.7	.....
Separation rates, total.....do....	3.9	4.2	2.8	r3.1	p2.7	.....
Quits.....do....	.7	.7	.7	.9	p.9	.....
Layoffs.....do....	2.9	3.2	1.8	r1.7	p1.4	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. c/ Corrected. 1/ Data for March 1959 are advance estimates.

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ITEM	1958				1959	
	January	February	November	December	January	February
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS						
Operations on scheduled airlines:						
Miles flown, revenue.....thousands..	61,558	53,713	49,049	46,182	57,181	.....
Express and freight ton-miles flown.....do....	20,599	19,193	24,263	25,380	23,159	.....
Mail ton-miles flown.....do....	8,275	7,829	8,348	11,835	8,980	.....
Passengers originated, revenue.....do....	3,341	2,889	2,958	2,741	3,203	.....
Passenger-miles flown, revenue.....millions..	2,072	1,716	1,777	1,779	2,053	.....
LEATHER AND PRODUCTS						
Leather production:						
Calf and whole kip.....thous. of skins..	786	748	644	727	689	.....
Cattle hide and side kip.....thous. of hides and kips..	2,109	1,936	2,040	2,156	2,139	.....
Goat and kid.....thous. of skins..	1,931	1,647	1,517	1,763	1,973	.....
Sheep and lamb.....do....	1,922	1,981	2,345	r2,327	2,370	.....
LUMBER AND MANUFACTURES						
Lumber (National Lumber Manufacturers Association):						
Production, total.....mil. of bd. ft..	2,511	2,365	2,688	2,678	2,629	2,618
Softwoods.....do....	2,083	1,932	2,163	2,215	2,151	2,133
Shipments, total.....do....	2,475	2,311	2,623	2,640	2,641	2,655
Softwoods.....do....	1,996	1,805	2,087	2,179	2,162	2,142
Stocks (gross), mill, end of month, total.....do....	9,519	9,573	9,062	9,100	9,106	9,076
Softwoods.....do....	5,953	6,080	5,516	5,552	5,558	5,556
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (incl. foreign ore), operations in all U.S. districts:						
Receipts at iron and steel plants.....thous. of long tons..	3,078	2,515	9,324	3,948	3,164	3,046
Consumption at iron and steel plants.....do....	7,605	6,484	9,262	9,588	9,828	9,699
Stocks, end of month, at furnace yards.....do....	54,349	50,379	65,904	60,265	53,601	46,944
Stocks, end of month, at U. S. docks.....do....	4,859	5,023	5,312	5,577	5,470	5,229
Castings, shipments:						
Gray iron.....thous. of short tons..	868	753	958	998	1,002	.....
Malleable iron.....short tons..	62,734	54,650	63,356	68,385	73,186	.....
Steel.....do....	120,722	103,297	85,267	103,800	105,392	.....
Steel products, net shipments:						
Total (all grades).....thous. of short tons..	5,215	4,263	5,187	5,512	6,186	6,524
Structural shapes (heavy), steel piling.....do....	484	296	352	387	360	410
Plates.....do....	524	435	452	500	509	558
Bars and tool steel, total.....do....	682	572	821	839	888	938
Pipe and tubing.....do....	615	508	533	527	679	706
Wire and wire products.....do....	234	204	251	237	268	279
Tin mill products.....do....	559	475	157	200	498	526
Sheets and strips (incl. electrical), total.....do....	1,801	1,499	2,317	2,506	2,648	2,714
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT						
Motor vehicles:						
Factory sales, total.....number..	558,533	467,553	605,334	709,078	r635,664	577,093
Coaches, total.....do....	327	308	167	208	169	143
Domestic.....do....	295	293	124	165	112	141
Passenger cars, total.....do....	478,416	396,221	511,885	608,730	539,451	476,977
Domestic.....do....	462,674	383,516	497,218	594,188	527,588	466,564
Trucks, total.....do....	79,790	71,024	93,282	100,140	r96,044	99,973
Domestic.....do....	64,020	53,988	79,618	82,688	r81,599	83,775

r/ Revised.

USCOMM-DC-9351

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